

# Kentucky Public Library Association's Legislative Day Background Information

Frankfort

February 11, 2009

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## *The Message*

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Public libraries are working for the people  
in their communities to help them  
through these tough economic times

Kentucky Public Library Association's  
Primary Legislative Day Message

## *Talking Points*

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- The library provides job search services
- The library provides internet access to job search sites, want ads, and e-mail
- The library assists in finding and completing online job applications
- Kentucky state government job applications are now completed and accepted using the Internet
- Only 44 of the top 100 U.S. retailers accepted paper applications filled out in stores, which means that applicants need the Internet (Albany (NY) *Democrat Herald*. Dec. 6, 2008)
- The library offers programs to train the unemployed
  - Resume classes
  - Computer classes (Word, Excel, Web searching)
- The library has resources for job searchers
  - Resume and cover letter guides
  - GED and other test preparation materials
  - Newspapers for job ads
  - Photocopying & Faxing
  - Locating local, state, and Federal government aid
  - Meeting spaces for study, testing, & interviews
- KDLA's budget cut by 20% in 2008 and may be cut as much as 6% in 2009
  - Fewer services, including curtailing or eliminating consulting services, book discussion and programming kits for adults and children, training, Archives Research Room hours, Kentucky Virtual Library, interlibrary loan service, circulating audio and large print book collections, etc.
  - No grants for bookmobile purchase or repair, construction projects, public records preservation, etc.

## Kentucky's 2008-2010 Budget Dilemma

- 2008-2010 Budget **\$19 billion** April, 2008
- Estimated Budget Shortfall **\$456.1 million** December, 2008

## Proposed Budget Dilemma Solution

### Proposed Revenue Sources

Cigarette Tax (70 cent increase to \$1 per pack)

2008 (includes inventory tax)

2009

Rainy Day Fund

Internal Budget Cuts

(2%-4% depending on agency)

Budget Reallocation

Coal Severance Tax

Employee Furlough (3 days)

### Estimated Revenue

\$81.5 million

\$144 million

\$178.9 million

\$147.1 million

\$40 million

\$17.5 million

\$8 million (Corbin Times Tribune. Dec. 12, 2008)

## Impact on Kentucky Libraries

- State aid was cut about 11% in 2008 and could be cut by as much as 10% in 2009
  - State aid represents a critical portion of the budget for libraries in Elliott, Knott, and other counties
- Coal Severance Tax is used in coal producing counties for various local library projects, such as in construction, renovation, automation, collections
  - Libraries in 2008 which received funding from coal severance tax include Bell, Clay, Elliott, Floyd, Harlan, Hopkins, Jackson, Knott, Knox, Laurel, Magoffin, Muhlenberg, and Owsley
- There was no impact on committed construction debt retirement grants in 2008, but the impact in the future is uncertain
  - No construction funds in 2009 or 2010
- County and municipal service funding cuts impact libraries like Louisville Free Public Library and the Madisonville-Hopkins County Public Library
- KDLA's budget cut by 20% in 2008 and may be cut as much as 6% in 2009
  - Retiring staff not being replaced, such as regional and children's consultants
  - Consolidation of services, such as State Library Services and Field Services
  - No grants for bookmobile purchase or repair, construction projects, public records preservation, etc.
  - Fewer services, including curtailing or eliminating consulting services, book discussion and programming kits for adults and children, training (onsite and online), all print publications, Archives Research Room hours, statewide summer reading program, Kentucky Virtual Library, interlibrary loan service, courier service, circulating audio and large print book collections
  - Without additional revenue, KDLA "might cease to exist," according to Education Cabinet Secretary, Helen Mountjoy, and maintenance of the archives would be transferred to another agency. "KDLA would not be able to meet mandates required by law." (Frankfort State Journal. Dec. 18, 2008)